GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3688
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2016
Infrastructural Issues
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is coordinating with the Ministries of Railways and Road transport & Highways to address the infrastructural issues regarding the coal exploration, production and supply;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Ministry to ensure that infrastructure is put in place to create a conducive system for companies to bid for projects assigned to the region;

(c) the reason for low utilization of funds allocated for the projects in North Eastern States for the exploration of coal mines projects; and

(d) the manner in which the Government is planning to address the issue of infrastructure so as to attract more investors for the regional projects?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER, NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b): Coal India Limited (CIL) has funded three mega rail infrastructure projects, which are under implementation in the upcoming coalfields that shall help develop, produce & evacuate coal from these areas. The three projects are:

1. Tori-Shivpur-Kathotia rail project in Jharkhand being executed on deposit basis to facilitate evacuation of coal from the North Karanpura Coalfields of CCL.
2. Jharsuguda Barpali rail project in Odisha is being executed on deposit basis to facilitate evacuation of coal from the Talcher Coalfields of MCL.
3. East Rail Corridor & East-West Rail Corridor in Chhattisgarh being executed through JV companies to facilitate evacuation of coal from Mand-Raigarh Coalfields.

The combined length covered by these projects is likely to be about 539 Kms and the combined capital outlay involved is about Rs 13419 Crs.

Progress of implementation of these three rail infrastructure projects along with other railway projects are being monitored through the e-CPMP portal of Ministry of Coal. Regular meetings are held in the Ministry to resolve critical issues involved in these projects. Monthly Coal Rail inter-ministerial meeting is held to review the implementation of these projects. Further in regard to road projects the pending issues with Ministry of Road Transport and Highways are also discussed through e-CPMP portal of Ministry of Coal.

(c) & (d): North Eastern Region coalfields fall mainly in the states of Assam, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya. They constitute 0.5% of the total coal resources of the country. Most of the coals bearing areas in these states have major constraints in exploration with respect to difficult geological characteristics, large forest cover, rugged terrain and land-issues causing hindrance in the work and in-turn low utilization of fund.

Government is committed to ensure development of region by exploration of coal resource. State wise specific action plan have been drawn to ensure capacity building in Coal exploration. Further promotional drilling in the potential area of North East region has been taken up to prove coal resource for attracting investment in coal mining sector.

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